

# *The* **SOUTHEAST NEWS**

**OF, BY AND FOR CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES**

Volume 3 - Number 12

SEPTEMBER, 1955



## **DOUGLAS DAY - CHURCH BUILDERS CLUB PRESENTATION**

Left to right: J. J. Seymour, Rev. W. C. Carpenter, Mrs. Ione Kirkland, Mr. and Mrs. Loyd Vickers, and Rev. Henry C. Weaver.



# Relationship of Man to Society and His Environment

By Alford Carleton

(Excerpts from his third and last address made at DeKoven, Wisconsin as transcribed by Montez Albright)

The relationship of the individual and society is one of the deepest philosophical and moral problems of our time. On the one hand, the individual is the real unit of existence. On the other hand, society has us in an iron grip. There have been phenomenal advances in science. We can measure the distance to stars in billions of light years. There is a capacity in human beings that is magnificent. I once knew an illiterate Arab pearl diver who learned in a few weeks to operate complicated machinery controlling oil and gas—so complicated was this machinery that the least mistake would have caused a disastrous explosion. Yet the Arabs learned to operate it well—all it took was the teaching; they had the capacity to learn. The Golden Gate bridge illustrates what man can do; Alcatraz prison just across the way from this bridge illustrates what man can do to man. And yet with all our scientific advances, there is no thought greater than one man can think; no feeling greater than one human heart can feel—it is still the emotion of one human heart when it is felt and the experience remains individual.

The Church comes in as the one group seeing both the individual and society in the perspective of time and eternity. The Church alone sees man's desire and also the will of God. In this dilemma of man and society, the Christian Church has a fundamental task to perform because God's church has never forgotten the individual man. God knows and cares what happens to each individual. That is unique in the religious of the world. The Christian Church brings in a third dimension, which is God.

The early missionaries went out with the idea that every soul was damned if they did not get there first. . . . whatever denomination they represented, they had this idea. The people who are still saving souls are the ones who are evangelistic churches today. The early individual approach by missionaries and churches was soon balanced by a more social view as it was realized that the church must have schools. You won't have Christian leaders unless there is a means of educating them. You will not have many Christians unless you bring health to the community. A development of the last century was the social approach of churches.

One of the problems of the Church today is to educate our own people to the depths and types of work we are doing. Missions and world beliefs and good will are not three different things but are three phases of one vital concern of the Christian individual. They all tie together. Although today many outmoded concepts of missions are still current and we need to do more pioneering in a broader approach; and although there are problems of understanding, of communication, and of gathering resources and solving

problems of techniques, yet the Christian Church has an enormous potential in solving world problems. Quite apart from our own conviction of the unique power of the Christian Gospel, the Church stands today in a strategic position in the world as men face their common problems over the world. This is so because our resources are enormous, although too often potential rather than actual. It is true also that although our responsibilities are likewise immense, they are not too great if we bring all our resources under the power of our convictions—the concern and the commitment of the Christian faith. We can make a tremendous impact prayerfully under the power of our convictions—the concern and the commitment of the Christian faith. We can make a tremendous impact prayerfully under the guidance, the wisdom, and the power of God.

There are two "equal but opposite" dangers in current appeals for Our Christian World Mission. The one, appeal to smug generosity, to our pride and superiority (give them the crumbs—see how generous we are) is as wrong as the other of enlightened self-interest (if we give to them they will be our friends). These are very insidious dangers. We should not give because it makes us feel good to give, but give to see them grow when we help them. The appeal to Christianity as a tool to stop communism is wrong. Christianity will be the answer to communism, but not as enlightened self-interest—a sort of religious-point-four. It is the Christian concern with and through people of all lands, and Christian freedom that will be the ultimate answer to the power state, but we shall be competing with Hinduism and Confucism long after people have to look in the dictionary to see what communism was.

The problem of effective communication—of spreading the gospel around the world—is tremendous. But we must never forget the need for effective communication—to get it over from one group of Christians to another, or from Christians to non-Christians. Our first need is men; money is only secondary. We need the young men and young women with the deepest motivation, the highest intellect, the best training to effectively represent the church and interpret the Christian gospel.

The historic Haystack prayer Meeting (150 years ago) was the beginning of a great deal in our churches. There will be a celebration of this event—a dramatic presentation in Williamstown, Omaha. We hope to make it a starting point of a movement to enlist young men and women for the church—recruitment for Christian service. We want to make more emphasis on persons than on money. We need people now, this fall—doctors, nurses, social workers. If we find the men with the motivation, then the money will come. We cannot do everything—teach everyone to read, for instance. We must choose a significant point at which to make our contributions.

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## DOUGLAS DAY

The first Presentation Service of the Church Builders Club was held on the afternoon of Aug. 14 in the air-conditioned assembly room of the First Methodist Church of Tifton, and the Douglas Congregational Christian Church received the first grant.

Due to the illness of the Superintendent, the Rev. Lowell A. Smoot of Soddy, Tenn., gave the main address. The Rev. Henry Weaver, president of the club, presided over the meeting, and Dr. A. R. Van Cleave gave the invocation. Mrs. Ione Kirkland was the pianist.

The Rev. W. C. Carpenter, secretary-treasurer of the club, reported 852 members, with \$3,810.00 in the treasury. He also read letters of congratulation from Dr. Warren H. Denison and Dr. L. E. Smith.

During the morning service at Douglas Church, the Rev. C. Carl Dollar dedicated the church bus and the new dining hall recently completed. The church members served a bounteous dinner to guests.

## DEACON'S INSTITUTE

According to the Rev. Goff Bedford, a deacon's institute was held Aug. 28th at Ft. Valley, for South Georgia churches, with 24 laymen and ministers present, representing four churches: Ft. Valley, Pleasant Hill, Society Hill and The Rock Bethany.

Fifteen of those present were deacons, and were given the "Congregational Christian Manual for Deacons" to study. Another meeting is tentatively planned for the Columbus, Ga., area.

Mr. Bedford is also planning a leadership training school for Ambrose, Douglas and Pearson churches, to be held late in September or early in October.

## DATE OF UNION ANNOUNCEMENT

June 25, 1957, has been chosen as the date on which the Congregational Christian churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Church will unite to form the United Church of Christ. The announcement was made recently by the Rev. Dr. James E. Wagner, president of the Evangelical and Reformed body, and by the Rev. Dr. Raymond B. Walker, chairman of the executive committee of the Congregational Christian General Council.

The date of unification was decided upon by the General Council of the Evangelical and Reformed Church and by the executive committee of the General Council of the Congregational Christian churches in a recent joint meeting. A service of worship will mark the actual union on June 25th and will be followed the next day by business sessions.

The union of the two denominations was first agreed upon in 1948. It was delayed through legal action taken by the Cadman Memorial Church (Congregational Christian) in Brooklyn, N. Y. Their petition was rejected in 1953 by the New York Court of Appeals. Present action was taken following a report by a committee of lawyers to the joint meeting of the two communions

## FALL CONFERENCE AND ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Moderators and executive committees of the six conference and associations are making plans for the annual fall meetings. Notices and programs will be going out to churches, but to refresh your memory see the schedule of dates and places on the back page of this issue.

Superintendent Erston M. Butterfield and the Rev. Annie R. Campbell, Minister of Christian Education, will attend all meetings. William Frank Gordon, SEC president of Laymen's Fellowship and treasurer of the Convention, will attend as many as possible and will be available for consultation on financial records of churches and on laymen's work.

The new stewardship film, "The Secret of the Gift", will be shown, and will be available to churches after the meetings. Members of the Promotional Media Committee will be present to present the new ministers' promotional media kit, and each minister may have one of the kits with its suggestions for publicity and promotion through newspaper, radio and all media.

### Highlights from Programs Received

Dr. Marshall Wingfield will preach the conference sermon for Kentucky-Tennessee Sunday morning, Oct. 9th. Supt. Butterfield will give the main address the evening of Oct. 8th. Dr. Paul R. Reynolds is Moderator.

The Rev. Samuel Penn will give the keynote address at the Georgia-South Carolina Conference the morning of Oct. 5th. Supt. Butterfield will speak in midafternoon, and will have charge of the evening program on missions. The Rev. John Crutcher of Phenix City will preach the conference sermon the morning of Oct. 6th.

At the South Alabama-Northwest Florida meeting Supt. Butterfield will preach the association sermon the morning of Oct. 15th. Concurrent meetings of laymen, women and young people will be held on the morning of Oct. 15th, led by William Frank Gordon, Rev. Annie Campbell, and Mrs. Raymond Berry.

Make your plans now to attend your conference or association meeting, and remember that Per Capita Dues are paid in to the conference or association treasurer, and Our Christian World Mission (or apportionment) comes to the Convention office.

## MISSIONARY CONFERENCE

The annual Missionary Conference for the East Alabama Women's Fellowship will be held Sunday, September 25th at Langdale Church. All are invited to attend the morning service at the Langdale Church, beginning at 10:45 EST.

A good program has been planned, offering both inspiration and practical helps.

Supt. Erston M. Butterfield will be the main speaker at 3:05 Sunday afternoon.

All reports should be mailed to the secretary, Mrs. Thomas Miles, Langdale, Ala., and the ap-

to the effect that they are legally at liberty to unite on the **Basis of Union** in 1948.



## THE SOUTHEAST NEWS

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#### STAFF

Rev. Erston M. Butterfield, Supt. ....Editor

Rev. Annie R. Campbell.....

Minister, Christian Education

Mrs. Ed. A. Albright .....Registrar

Mrs. Jettie Logan .....Promotion

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## WORK DAY FOR CHRIST OCTOBER, 22

PFers across the nation will be participating in the annual national Work Day for Christ on Oct. 22nd. This day of work is Pilgrim Fellowship's plan for supporting Our Christian World Mission across the nation and around the world.

The plan is for each member to get a job for this day and give his earnings to the world-wide work of the churches. What you and your friends do on this day is translated into missionary service in Japan, Christian literature in India, medical supplies for Puerto Rico, or new churches in your own country. It is your way of **sharing**—of stretching out a helping hand to those in need of your help.

Start planning several weeks ahead. You might take one meeting to discuss what Christ Work Day should mean to you, why you are going to work, and what you are working for.

1. Appoint a person or committee to solicit and receive job opportunities. Find out from the prospective employer what he wants done, when he wants it done, and how long the job will last. Let your employer know your purpose in working. Some groups have had great success in auctioning off PFers at church as "Slaves" for eight hours of work.

2. A week before the day have a PF meeting on a subject related to our missionary program.

3. Plan an early morning worship service before members go on to their jobs. Some groups have breakfast together also.

4. Come together again in the evening for a short period of fellowship, relating experiences of the day, and perhaps have a dedication service

portionment (Our Christian World Mission) sent to the treasurer, Mrs. A. D. Harry, Lanett, Ala., so they may complete their reports.

Miss Paralee Hill of Phenix City, president of East Alabama Women, will preside over the meeting.

of the money earned. Or this service might be held in the church the following Sunday.

5. Send your money and a write-up of your experiences to the Southeast Convention office.

Each year since 1950 more and more groups have participated. Let 1955 exceed them all!

## AS A MAN THINKETH... SO SHALL HE DRIVE

Our driving is regulated by a mass of traffic laws, yet we have no laws prohibiting a person losing his temper nor any requiring him to be patient and courteous and to set a good example for others while he is driving. However, after spending over 20 years in the field of traffic work, it is my sincere belief that these very personal and very individual items are the ones that need improvement and control.

No police group, nor public education agency, and few lay speakers can reach people on these basic items because these agencies cannot reach the public when they are in the frame of mind to heed admonitions on such personal affairs as these. You, as a minister, as a Sunday school teacher, can improve the thinking of the individual on these. No one else can.

I am convinced that, for the most part, people know their traffic regulations. They know how to drive their car and they know how to stay out of mishaps. That is, they know these things when they are in a normal state of mind. But their unwillingness to ignore competition from other drivers, their lack of consideration for others, and their failure to remember always that they are their brother's keeper . . . these are the things that cause people to commit acts which get them into traffic troubles, and result in injury and death on our streets and highways. These are the fundamentals of traffic accident prevention.

It is true these very same fundamentals get people in trouble at home and at their places of work. Consequently, if you, in your position in the field of Christian Education, can do something to a man's mind and to his heart to make him a better driver, the chances are you will make him a better man. And, by making this person a better driver and a better man, you might save his life or the life of some one—maybe a person dear and near to you.

—By Dan Hollingsworth, Manager of the Oklahoma City Safety Council, from preface of "Golden (Traffic) Rules" a booklet compiled by him for the use of Religious Educators and others in the discussion of the universal and mutual problem of traffic control and traffic mishaps.

## A REMINDER. . . . .

. . . To all church reporters: Please send in your news by the 20th of each month, and make it of recent happenings in your church during that month! It will then be published in the issue of **Southeast News** the following month.

Notices of meetings to be held should reach us a month early for the notice to reach people in time to help promote attendance.

When sending names of church officers elected, please include their addresses so we may add them to our mailing list.



# THE SUPERINTENDENT'S PAGE

Rev. E. M. Butterfield

## Our Day of Decision -- 1955

Sunday, September 25th, has been designated as "Our Day of Decision" in all churches of the Southeast Convention. On that day, in the morning, afternoon or evening, each church will hold a duly called congregational meeting and special service to present the needs of "Our Christian World Mission" and vote a goal for giving for the 1955-56 church year.

Church Canvass teams will go to every church to tell the story, answer questions, and help the congregation to conscientiously and intelligently face our Christian Mission in the world today. We hope every member of every church will plan to attend the services and the congregational meeting in his church!

Our Day of Decision is really important, for too often we think only of the needs of our own church and forget there is a "Church in all the world" that is also dependent upon our devotion and sacrifice. Have you ever stopped to think of all the things accomplished because of what you give through Our Christian World Mission? Because of your giving, we have a Southeast Convention to increase the effectiveness of our churches and deepen the fellowship among our people. Your giving makes possible a central denominational office in Atlanta, provides a staff of skilled, devoted persons at the call of all churches without charge, traveling about 60,000 miles per year to service in all phases of the church's life work. Your giving enables boards and committees to meet for program planning and policy making; and provides direct aid to churches needing financial help in maintaining a minister. That's a lot, but it's just part of the story!

Your money given for Our Christian World Mission goes across the nation in which there are still 72,000,000 people who belong to no church and in which a major crime is committed every

14 seconds. Through the Home Board, our money provides for new churches in strategic areas, consecrated leadership in special areas of need. Our money helps to maintain special projects among particular cultural groups; develops understanding, goodwill, and cooperation in the areas of agricultural, international, labor, and legislative relations; and provides special care for aged ministers and their wives or for ministers and their families facing emergency situations.

And still your money does not stop! It keeps right on going across the seas where it makes a witness of truth and love in twelve mission centers through the dedicated work of 337 missionaries and 12,600 national Christian leaders working in nearly 2,000 churches, 766 schools, 73 hospitals and dispensaries where more than 220,000 patients are treated!

But there's still more: your dollars given to Our Christian World Mission offer a glorious ministry of reconciliation and hope to persons uprooted by war and tragedy through the Congregational Christian Service Committee.

It's as we said in "Our Day of Decision" film-strip produced for last year's Every Church Canvass: "Wherever there are people in need or in trouble, we are standing beside them. Whenever there are people who long to hear the 'good news', there we are preaching the word. Wherever there are people who are sick, we are there with the ministry of healing. Wherever there are those who are in bondage to ignorance or fear, there we are teaching the truth that alone can set them free."

But remember all this depends on you and your willingness to give. Someone said: "To know is to care and to care is to share."

So what will you do on Sunday, Sept. 25th when you face another Day of Decision? Please attend the meeting in your church, remember

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## SCHEDULE FOR EVERY CHURCH CANVASS TRAINING SESSIONS

Monday, September 12 - at Chipley Oak Grove for North and Central Georgia and Alabama Valley churches.

Tuesday, September 13 - at Vanceville, Tifton for South Georgia churches.

Wednesday, September 14 - at Adanlusia Antioch for South Alabama churches.

Monday, September 19 - at Crossville, Tenn., for Kentucky-Tennessee churches.

Tuesday, September 20 - at Mt. Grove near Steppville for North Alabama churches.

Wednesday, September 21 - at Alexander City Hunt for Central and East Alabama.

This schedule has been planned so that no church will be more than 40 miles distant from a canvass training session. Meetings at each church will begin with a supper. Each church will receive detailed information through the mail. Please let your Host Church know how many will be coming from YOUR church to aid them in preparation for the supper.



# PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP

## CENTRAL P. F. RALLY

Over 70 young people, adult advisors and ministers attended the Pilgrim Fellowship Rally on Aug. 28th at Seman Community Church, where the Rev. Otto Culpepper is adult advisor for the Central Alabama District of Pilgrim Fellowship.

Mountain Creek Union; Mt. Olive, Tallahassee; Thorsby United; and East Tallahassee Liberty churches sent representatives, and of course many were present from the host church. Those from East Tallahassee Liberty arrived in their Sunday School bus and easily won the attendance prize of a Pilgrim Fellowship New Testament.

The church pastors and adult advisors were right there to back up their young people. Bill Green, secretary of the SEC Pilgrim Fellowship, and Rev. Annie R. Campbell, Minister of Christian Education, were also present.

Bobby Jack Pemberton ably presided and called on the different youth groups for reports of the work they had been doing in their churches, and all reports showed great activity and progress. Thorsby has recently organized a PF group. A constitution was adopted. The Mountain Creek young people conducted the devotional and Seman was responsible for the period of group singing and a refreshing supper. Discussion groups were held on the three commissions.

The next Central Alabama Rally will be held at Thorsby, the last Sunday in November.

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## WADLEY SUMMER CONFERENCES

The Alabama Junior and Senior High Conferences enjoyed having Miss Anna Carol Kingdon as missionary speaker. She told, and showed many beautiful color slides, of her two years experience in India. Miss Kingdon and Professor Robert Yoh also conducted very fine choir groups. While we were all very sorry that Mr. Yoh's operation had to be delayed, we did appreciate being able to have his fine leadership in Vesper and Communion services at both conferences. With Mrs. Carl Dollar as dietitian, everyone was happy about good food.

The Rev. Herbert Long, as Dean, handled well the Junior High group in various situations. Frances Charrier served as Dean of Women, taught one of the morning classes and a beginner's class in swimming. The Rev. and Mrs. Raymond Berry taught and helped with the total program. The Junior Highs were a fine, enthusiastic and cooperative group. They were especially pleased that there were almost as many boys as girls and Saturday brought tearful leave-takings and a desire that the conference might continue for another week.

The Rev. Raymond Berry was the very able Dean of Senior High Conference and had everything well planned. Many of the same leaders served at this conference, plus Dr. Guy Colbert, Rev. Carl Dollar, Rev. Donald Ross, Mary Stewart and Sally Higginbotham. The Senior Highs always seem to have it over the Junior Highs in



STUDENT SUMMER WORKERS - Front row: Betty Slater, Sherron Vansant, Jerry Paul; back row: Sally Higginbotham, Frances Charrier, Rev. Annie Campbell, Billie McGlawn, and Mary Stewart.

This year the summer workers conducted 20 vacation Bible schools for more than 600 children. They worked as counselors in five summer camps, teaching a VBS in two family camps.

having weather suitable for their picnic at Bald Rock.

—Annie R. Campbell

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## SUCCESSFUL VENTURE

The first Work Camp in the Southeast Convention was a tremendous success. From July 31 through Aug. 6 the campus of Southern Union College was the scene of plenty of hard work, enlightening trips and discussions and friendly fellowship.

The camp was attended by thirteen young people from Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama: Betty Slater, Mary Stewart, Pat Dunigan, Bettye Cunningham, Stevetta Green, Martha Starrett, Jim Batch, Frank Bell, Frank Little, Jim Marsh, Jimmy Smith, Johnny Van Cleave and Anna Carol Kingdon. The Reverends Annie Campbell and Carl Landes were adult supervisors. Mrs. Landes and Elfreda Landes did all the cooking—which was pronounced superb by all!

Campers arose at five each morning to the tune of Johnny Van Cleave's bugle. Morning watch and breakfast were followed by four hours of work, by which time everyone was ready for the hearty dinners. Afternoons consisted of trips to such places as Russell Cotton Mill in Alexander City, a shirt factory and gas pumping station in Wadley, Tuskegee Institute, and Kowaliga Beach and other nearby swimming pools.

Often the group took a picnic supper and had Vespers beside a lake or other place of natural

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## FAITH, FELLOWSHIP AND ACTION

The SEC chairmen of the three commissions of Pilgrim Fellowship met with the Rev. Annie R. Campbell in Atlanta on Aug. 21 for final discussion of materials to be mailed to all PF groups during September. Also present were Mary Stewart, SEC vice-president of PF, and Bill Green, acting secretary. Albert Van Cleave was appointed chairman of the Fellowship Commission. Martha Starrett continues as Faith chairman and Betty Slater as Action chairman. Mrs. Albright was invited to sit in on the meeting as advisor on preparation of materials for mimeographing and mailing by the Convention office.

Martha Starrett will recruit a committee from the Atlanta Central PF to address envelopes for mailing out materials and the quarterly PF "Pre-view".

The Convention office has a list of key young people, some district officers, and a partial list of local church PF presidents and adult advisors. It would be very helpful if EVERY PF president would send in to the Convention office his or her name and address, the names and addresses of the three commission chairmen in each local PF group and the adult advisor. These names can be checked against the present mailing list so that it can be corrected and added to, and the list will then be more complete. We want every PF to receive the packet of materials for the year ahead. The packet will contain general information, program materials and suggestions, and a complete booklet for each commission chairman giving information and suggestions for the work and program of the commission.

If your PF group has not been organized on the three commission plan, the packet will be sent to the president and the adult advisor.

Any church not having a PF group, but interested in organizing one, may request a packet of materials through the pastor or an interested person.

Convention PF officers and chairmen are available to speak at local churches to organize PF groups. Appointments may be made through the president, Millard Fuller, Rt. 1, Lanett, Ala.

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### NEW P. F. SECRETARY

William R. Green Jr., has been appointed secretary of SEC Pilgrim Fellowship to fill the unexpired term of Inas Dillard, since Inas is moving out of the state to take nurses training this fall.

Bill is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Green, Sr., of Roanoke, Ala. He was born Sept. 26, 1932, finished high school in the class of '49 at Handley High in Roanoke, and is presently employed at the Anniston Ordnance Depot, Anniston, Ala.

Bill is president of the Wadley District PF, past president of the local PF which he helped to organize two years ago, and in addition he teaches a Junior Sunday School Class at Rock Stand Church, where he is a member and Church Clerk. For the past year Bill has been chairman of the Fellowship Commission.

Energetic as he is, Bill will have to really be on

the ball to follow Inas Dillard as secretary, for she has done a wonderful job and will be greatly missed.

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### WADLEY DISTRICT P. F.

About fifty PFers and their adult leaders, representing eight churches, were present for the third Wadley District Rally held July 31st at the Hunt Church in Alexander City, Ala.

The program began with a worship period led by the Beulah PF, followed with workshop sessions on the three commissions. On hand to lead the workshops were: Action, Betty Slater, SEC chairman; Faith, Martha Starrett, SEC chairman; Fellowship, Rev. Annie Campbell, Minister of Christian Education. Reports from the workshops were heard by the entire group.

Mary Stewart, SEC vice-president of PF, gave an interesting talk on Pilgrim Fellowship, the history and organization. Then she and Betty Slater led the group in singing, and refreshments were served by the host church.

Hunt PF led the closing worship period, and the group adjourned to meet again in October.

Bob Hand, of Beulah PF, was elected chairman of the Faith Commission to replace Patsy Thompkins—since Patsy has left the district. Gloria Blair from Hunt PF was elected reporter.

—Bill Green, president  
Wadley District P. F.

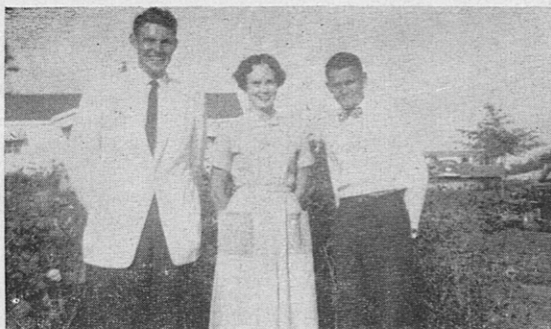
### Successful Venture

(From page 6)

beauty. Vespers were led on various occasions by Rev. Landes, Dr. Ensminger (president emeritus of Southern Union College), Rev. Clyde Flannery, and Professor Robert Yoh. Miss Anna Carol Kingdon, a graduate of Oberlin College who recently spent two years in India, spoke to the group and showed her beautiful and educational slides. Miss Ann Queen, of the Friends Service Committee, and Bob Hughes of the Alabama Council on Human Relations, were two very entertaining speakers who brought an inspiring message to the group.

This glorious week of Christian Fellowship was concluded by a Communion Service on Saturday morning.

—Martha Starrett



WADLEY DISTRICT PF OFFICERS: Bill Green, president; Cynthia Breed, secretary; Frank Bell, chairman of Action Commission.



# Church News . . . .

At the morning worship hour on Aug. 7th, the Rev. John B. Crutcher assumed the ministry of the **United Church of Phenix City, Ala.**, with 140 present to hear the new minister's first sermon as their pastor.

The Rev. Crutcher comes from Illinois, where he was formerly pastor of the Trimble Congregational Christian Church and director of Christian Education for the Wabash Association. He attended McKendree College, Lebanon, Ill., where he graduated in 1952 with a Bachelor's Degree in English. During his stay at college he was quite active in athletics, receiving the varsity letters in football, basketball and track. He was also a member of the Platonian Literary Society and president of the college English Club.

Mr. Crutcher was born in Chicago and chose Garrett Biblical Institute in near-by Evanston, Ill., to take his seminary work. During that time he served the First Methodist Church of Davis, Ill. His wife is the former Patsy Ruth Tedder of Granite City, Ill., and they met while at college and married in June 1949. The Crutchers have three children: Bobbie, aged five, Ruth Ellen, aged three, and Carol, nine months old. Mr. Crutcher is one of our youngest pastors, being 26 years old.

After leaving seminary, Mr. Crutcher returned to the Wabash Association of South-eastern Illinois, in which members of his family have been active for over thirty years. This association ordained him in 1954 at its annual conference, and during the past year he was a member of the Committee on Ministry and Reception. During his six years in the ministry he has been active in conference and local church youth work, at summer camps and institutes, serving on the faculty of the Merom College Institute for the past two years. He brings to the United Church intensive training in speech, evangelism, and Bible exposition.

—Paralee Hill, Reporter

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A business meeting was called at the Lanett Church on July 30th, at which time the nominating committee submitted a partial report for new church officers. Those elected to offices were: S. W. Seymour, S. S. Supt.; A. D. Harry, Clerk; Howard Looser, Treasurer. A detailed outline of possible projects and activities for the coming year was presented by the pastor, the Rev. Joe French. The proposed schedule was approved and adopted, and included the benevolences, stewardship and evangelistic emphasis, completion of the church building, landscaping and the addition of needed furniture and equipment.

New presidents of the Laymen's Fellowship and Pilgrim Fellowship are W. O. McGill and Waymon Seymour, respectively.

Seventeen high school PFers gathered at the home of Mrs. A. D. Harry for games and home-made ice-cream on Aug. 6th. This group sponsored rummage sales for two week-ends for the purpose of raising funds for completion of the front entrance to the church.



REV. JOHN B. CRUTCHER

Members of the Home Department and invited guests were treated to an ice cream fellowship supper on the church lawn the evening of Aug. 7. The Laymen's Fellowship made plans and appointed hosts and hostesses who were responsible for making contacts and furnishing transportation. It was good to see many of the "old timers" who can't attend regularly enjoying themselves so much. An hour of inspiration and fellowship, with a short talk by the Rev. J. D. Dollar, special music and request hymns, composed the program in the fellowship hall. Moving pictures were made of the participants.

The Dorcas Circle served a delicious barbecued chicken dinner in the fellowship hall following morning worship service on July 24th. Proceeds were donated to the organ fund.

The annual church picnic and Vesper Service was held at Pine Mountain Valley on Aug. 21st. Following supper at the picnic grounds, the group assembled on top of the mountain at sunset. The magnificent panoramic view made a perfect setting for the service of worship which was led by Mrs. Fred Lashley, program chairman of the Missionary Auxiliary. "Thine is the Kingdom" was the theme for the evening, focusing our thoughts on the beauty and splendor of God's creations through nature. We felt challenged to find where we best fit into His artistic design laid out in this great universe.

—Mrs. A. D. Harry

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Under the leadership of the Rev. Earl Hand, the churches of the Headland parish are making much progress. Clio New Hope had a good revival week, adding one member by confession. Blackwoods' revival resulted in seventeen new members, and the average attendance was 63 during the day services and 142 at evening services. A revival has been planned for Christian Hill in the early fall.

The vacation Bible school was well attended also, and was conducted by Misses Frances Char-



rier and Betty Slater, student summer service workers, with twenty-four children enrolled.

The **Alexander City Hunt Church** held its revival service July 31st through Aug. 7th, with the Rev. W. C. Carpenter as guest preacher. Six new members were added during the services, and five afterwards. This makes a total of nineteen new members since January.

The Pilgrim Fellowship of the church recently held a "car wash" and other projects and raised \$130—enough funds to put asphalt tile on the annex and Sunday School rooms.

—Lynwood Hubbard, pastor.

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**Andalusia Antioch Church** held the regular fifth Sunday dinner in the church dining hall on July 31st, and the young people reported on what they did at summer camp. Those who attended the Junior Hi Camp at Wadley were: Benny Adams, JoAnne Clark, Peggy Nelson, Lynn Nelson, Monica Adams, Gerald Chesteen and Donnie Hemby. Those attending the Senior Hi Camp at Wadley were: Mary Evelyn Thrasher, Shelby Jean Bozeman and Joe Adams.

Each of these groups brought back reports of of wonderful week of inspiration as well as recreation.

Work has already begun on our recreation center. Plans include a soft ball diamond, tennis court, volley ball court, picnic tables and barbeque pit. We hope to have a game for every person in the community, no matter what age group, and to complete it soon.

—Winnie Dye, reporter

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The roof of **Roanoke First Church** was damaged by hail some months ago, but will be re-roofed soon at a cost of about \$600. Pledges and cash are now in hand for the job and the work is beginning.

The Sunday School recently enjoyed a picnic on Dr. Bonner's lake, near Roanoke. Jim Bonner and John Will Dunn, the church school superintendent, were hosts on the occasion and set the group up to the ingredients for six big freezers of ice cream. Most all members of the school were present, as well as some visitors.

On Aug. 22nd., the Woman's Missionary Society installed its officers for 1955-56. These new officers are: Mrs. K. G. Payne, president;

Mrs. Hillis Sheppard, vice-president; Mrs. John Will Dunn, secretary-treasurer; and Mrs. R. P. Keeble, Friendly Service chairman.

—Mrs. Cora Head, reporter

\* \* \*

During the month of June ten new members were added to the roll of the **Jones Chapel Church** of Woodbury, Ga. During the second week of June, the Rev. Henry C. Weaver led in a revival service which added greatly to the spiritual growth of the large number in attendance. Three fellowship suppers were enjoyed by the members and friends prior to the services.

Also held during the second week in June was the Daily Vacation Bible School. Mrs. Hollis Bowden led a strong faculty and there were fifty in attendance.

In July and August the great interest of members has been in the new addition to the church building. Space for five Sunday School classrooms has been provided with this annex. The addition and the renovated church building were dedicated at the annual Homecoming on Aug. 14th. On that day and in the week following \$350 was raised to help with the building expense. During the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Render Fuller of Lanett and a quartet led by Milford Carpenter of LaGrange, led the congregation in hymn singing. The building committee for the church was composed of James Mitchell, Mrs. E. B. Morgan, Mrs. Gertrude Knight, Leon Stribling, Rufus McCrary, and Maxie Stribling.

Miss Satira Evans of our church was married to Ralph Johnson at the home of the pastor, the Rev. W. W. Elder, on Aug. 17th. The couple will reside in Atlanta while Mr. Johnson is stationed at Dobbins Air Force Base.

The Jones Chapel Sunday School enjoyed an afternoon outing at Perk's Pool on Aug. 22nd.

—Mrs. W. W. Elder, reporter

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Under the leadership of Dr. Thomas Isbell, the **Barnesville Fredonia Church** has had a good year. Last October the church royally entertained the delegates to the Georgia-South Carolina Conference.

On Easter Sunday the church received the following members: Mrs. Everett Bankston; Barbara Alma, Margaret and Robert Richardson; Carol Ann, Emily Estelle and Joe Sullivan. The service



HUNT PF CAR WASH



HUNT DINNER DURING REVIVAL



was most impressive and the beautiful arrangement of flowers was in memory of Mrs. John G. Bush, who died on Easter Sunday 1952.

Our pastor, Dr. Isbell, being a reserve chaplain, was called into service for the months of June and July. In his absence the Rev. Carl Parker acted as interim pastor. June 19th being Homecoming Day, talks were made in the morning by Mrs. Clarence Horne and Wellington Wright, newspaper columnist. In the afternoon an address was made by ex-Gov. Herman E. Talmage.

A Vacation Bible School was held June 20-25 under the supervision of Mrs. Zack Sullivan, with Misses Ada, Esther and Marianne Bush, Miss Emily Sullivan, Mesdames Berner Means and W. A. Sullivan, Jr., as teachers. Others aided in transportation, refreshments and recreation, and the school was a great success with almost perfect attendance and exceptional interest. A program on the handicrafts and work of the school was presented the following Sunday.

Fellowship meetings are held on Wednesday evenings before the third Sunday each month, with supper, church business and choir practice greatly enjoyed.

Miss Janie Bush, reporter

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**Ft. Valley First Church** held its annual Homecoming service Sunday, Aug. 21st. Superintendent Erston M. Butterfield delivered the sermon "Good Ground". Among the guests present were several former ministers and their families.

Following dinner on the grounds, a congregational meeting was held and a call issued to the Rev. Paul Pike of Andalusia to serve as pastor.

\* \* \*

**Friendship Church**, near Baxley, Ga., had a good Vacation Bible School conducted by Miss Billie McGlawn and Sherron Vansant. We wish to thank these young student summer workers for the splendid job they did.

Mrs. W. C. Mincey, primary S. S. teacher, gave a party in honor of Gail Perry and Bobby Head for the Primary Class. Little Gail and Bobby received a gift for perfect attendance for the past quarter.

Miss Sally Royal and Elvie Jean Herndon attended the Waycross Summer Camp Aug. 14-20, and reported a wonderful and inspirational week.

Mrs. A. C. Beach, Mrs. Troy Beach, Mrs. R. B. Smiley and Mrs. W. C. Mincey attended the Friday session of the Women's Retreat at Camp Waycross.

Friendship held its annual Homecoming Day Aug. 21st, with dinner on the grounds and regular church services. An afternoon program featuring The Happy Rhythm Boys, the Spring Branch Quartet, the Mixon Sisters, the Moody Trio, and Friendship Duet was enjoyed by all. We were happy to have among our special guests our former pastor and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. Ashley Hobbs.

We are delighted to have Elmer Herndon and Pat Meadows back home from the Armed Services.

Mrs. W. C. Mincey, reporter

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The three very active circles of Women's Fellowship of **LaGrange United Church** met together

## SOUTHERN UNION COLLEGE

Southern Union College is preparing for the largest enrollment to date-- even larger than last fall when there was a 25% increase. Number one problem will be adequate housing-- dormitory, classroom, library, laboratory. There is difficulty finding room for all the boarding students registered.

New faculty members have been added to the staff: Reuben Cooley assumed his job as Dean of Labor on June 15; Mrs. Cooley will teach Remedial Reading and Literature. Mr. and Mrs. Cooley came from Cleveland, Ohio. Elan Greene of Pineville, Ky., will be head of the Business Administration Dept.; Mrs. Carl Merrill of Heflin, Ala., will be an instructor in the Business Administration Dept.; Mr. Merrill will also be coach at the Wadley High School. Dr. Simon Bennett, former superintendent of Indiana, will teach in the History Dept.; and Douglas Wasson from Pittman Community Center, Sevierville, Tenn., will teach History. Mrs. John R. Harris of Wadley will manage the dining room and kitchen.

Professor Robert Yoh underwent an eye operation in Pennsylvania this summer, and writes that the operation was not as serious as he anticipated. He is getting along fine and will be back for staff meeting on Sept. 10.

Mr. and Mrs. David Eddy will return for the beginning of the Fall Quarter instead of six weeks later as originally planned. The doctor discovered that Mrs. Eddy's eye was not in shape for an operation this summer. The Eddys have been in France since early June.

Miss Elizabeth Van Cleave, daughter of Dean and Mrs. A. R. Van Cleave, will be married in early September in Berea, Ky.

Southern Union is growing in every way. The college will operate on a budget of \$62,000 this year, in comparison to \$28,000 in 1949. More than \$25,000 will go into faculty salaries.

Aug. 30th, for a fellowship supper, business meeting and installation of officers.

Each circle rather humorously reported a small balance in their treasuries, but their reports showed that much had been received and promptly expended for worthwhile projects. Over 30 were present.

After the supper and business session, the Rev. Annie Campbell, Minister of Christian Education for the Southeast Convention, explained the materials available in the Georgia packet and told something about the mission study books for all ages which she had with her. The filmstrip about the Women's Gift was shown. In closing, Miss Campbell conducted the Service of Installation for officers, with the out-going president, Mrs. Melvin Moore, giving the prayer of dedication and the pastor, the Rev. John Pickens, the closing benediction.

The following officers have been elected for the coming year: Mrs. Emmett Bailey, president; Mrs. Artis Hardy, vice-president and Woman's Gift chairman; Mrs. Maynard Burnham, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Roy Bass, Friend Service chairman; Mrs. Watt Kelley, Membership chairman; and Mrs. Alton Moon, House Committee chairman.



## GOD'S ACRE AT PLEASANT HILL

Last winter as they sought a means of serving the Lord, Pilgrim Fellowship members in Pleasant Hill, Tenn., recalled reading about the God's Acre plan. Having little money to give, these young people voted to work for their church as their stewardship to God. Meeting with the school agriculture teacher, Dale Haggard, they learned how to plant and care for strawberries.

Mr. Haggard agreed to be their technical assistant, and from community friends they borrowed funds to begin their work. A committee of young people chose a half-acre of land which would drain well. They gave this rich earth high on the Cumberland Plateau a thorough discing, and spent many hours after school last spring preparing their land for planting. Using their funds carefully they allocated \$19.76 to purchase a thousand pounds of fertilizer, and when the time came \$35 was invested in young strawberry plants. Into their half-acre the young churchmen placed individually 1200 Tennessee Beauty plants, interspersed with 1000 Blakemores. All spring and summer many hours were spent in the hot sun clearing weeds and watching over their-- and God's--prospective crop. Following suggestion of their technical assistant, the young farmers pinched off the first blossoms when they appeared, thereby allowing strong root and runner growth.

Imagine the joy these Christian young people will have as they watch over their strawberries next spring, waiting until May or June when at last will come time for harvesting. After all debts are paid, they hope for an income of nearly \$400 from their work and when the work is done, a handful of Tennessee young people will bow in prayer as they in a service of dedication give to their church the product of their labors.

—by James Price, for "Message to Youth"  
pamphlet published by the Missions  
Council

## NEW MISSION FILMS

Now available to churches, and excellent for showing at programs for youth, laymen and women, the following films may be ordered from the Dept. of Visual Aids, The Missions Council, 287 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

**In the Face of Jeopardy** (Color \$12; B&W \$8.) Produced in Southeast Asia, showing the power of Christ to transform a life and give courage to live or die. The story of the influence of a native Christian houseboy on his American employer.

**Song of the Shining Mountains** (Color \$12; B&W \$8.) This is one of the most beautiful films ever produced by the churches. It portrays the tremendous problems of the American Indian. The main character is an Indian boy torn between ancient religious customs and Christian beliefs as he learned them in missions school.

**Window of Tomorrow** (color \$8.) This is also a beautiful picture, and shows the complexity of modern missions. It portrays gospel preaching through normal channels, over radio, by means of film, etc. It portrays Christian schools, hospitals and agricultural work. Jim and Virginia McKinley, our missionaries, are shown but names

## TO ALL ALABAMA WOMEN

Dear Alabama Women:

It is with sincere humility that I accept the honor you have extended me in electing me your president. No one could wish for a finer group of assisting officers. Each of them has accepted her responsibility with great determination to accomplish worthwhile goals the coming year.

A few changes have been made in the organization. You will please order your year books and program packets from Miss Dora Brackin, Headland, Ala. We believe this will be more satisfactory, since she is treasurer, and will eliminate record-keeping and exchange of postage for mailings.

We are very fortunate to have Mrs. Raymond Berry of Andalusia as vice-president, and she will share the traveling responsibility with me. Since she lives in South Alabama, she can cover meetings in that section, thereby reducing expenses and having a share in the work.

There are many sections of Alabama I have never visited and would like very much to do so. But I must be frank to tell you I cannot travel and visit you as much as your former presidents have. With our four young children and our business obligations it will be an impossibility for me to cover all the meetings. Don't hesitate to call on me anytime for things I need to do and meetings I need to attend. I will do the very best I possibly can at all times.

Since I am new in the work, let me urge you to feel free to offer suggestions or call my attention to duties I may have overlooked. Many comments have been made on program packets. If you have any suggestions for topics or types of programs more suitable for us, please write me or Mrs. Berry. Do this before January, since Mrs. Logan tells us these things are discussed at the mid-winter meeting.

Let's make this new year the best ever in the state. Not for any personal credit, but simply because it is most necessary to put forth our best efforts to achieve Christian growth and development. I feel confident we will have your full cooperation in making this possible.

Pray for me in this great undertaking.

Yours in service,

(Mrs. A. D.) Lois Harry

are not called. This film will make you grateful for even a small share in such a great work.

(All are 30-minute films; please order 60 days in advance, giving first, second and third choice.)

**The Secret of the Gift**, new stewardship film, will be available to churches immediately after the fall association and conference meetings. Please give us first, second and third choice of dates when ordering. This film is free to churches except for the postage of mailing it back to the Convention office.

We have had a number of requests for a film called "According To His Faith", and have been puzzled about this. Now we find that this title was included in the material in the Women's Fellowship packets. Evidently, the name of the film was changed to "The Secret of the Gift". From now on we will know that is the film you mean when you order "According to His Faith".



# Obituary . . .

Ruth Isabel Seabury has left us! God has called her on. Few there have been in our time whose passing means so much to our fellowship. For, while she was with us, we could count upon her presence for renewal and refreshment. Now that she has gone, our faith in life may gain in strength because we know her vital selfhood has not failed the final test, "Whosoever believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

This friend of ours-- Dr. Seabury, educational secretary of the American Board for Foreign Missions, world-wide in renown and influence, leader of youth in many lands, a leading figure in the ecumenical movement, eloquent speaker and wise counselor-- died suddenly on July 30, in Muskegon, Mich. She was on her way back to New England from a four-month visit in Southeast Asia where she had become almost as much at home as in her own beloved America. "I want to see as much as possible of the 'pattern of things to come' and to visit not only missionaries but Asian leaders and the tension spots of Southeast Asia in order that I may help our churches in America to a better understanding of these situations," declared Dr. Seabury on the eve of her departure last March for Southeast Asia.

She "died"-- if that is the word to describe her transition-- upon the firing line-- near the American Youth Foundation Christian Leadership Training Camp in Michigan where for fifteen years she had taught as an influential member of the faculty. She was "one who never turned her back, but marched breast-forward, never doubted clouds would break." Mature in years, she was forever young in spirit. Possessed of an incredible vigor, physically, she spent herself for others with a lavishness that knew no bounds. Her mind was quick, yet not so quick as was her human sympathy. An individual in her own moral right, she shared her powerful individuality with all who came to her. Rigorously true to her deep-laid convictions, she listened open-mindedly to those of different views.

Born in Bangor, Maine in 1892, the daughter of the late George and Emma Seabury, Dr. Seabury was a graduate of Smith College. She became secretary of our American Board for Foreign Missions in 1917. "Her long years on the staff of the American Board made her its senior member," declared Dr. Alford Carleton, executive vice-president of the American Board, at the funeral service in Jamaica Plain, Mass. "To the work of the board in all its aspects she gave her full loyalty, energy and ability. She was a speaker of great distinction, a writer of charm and talent, an organizer of many activities and through it all a great spiritual leader. She never lost sight of the purpose for which the board exists, nor of the common bond of Christian people the world around.

"Though she was not destined to bring us a

report on the momentous trip she had scarcely completed, it was perhaps more fitting that her last months should have gone to a renewed interpretation to the people of the Far East of the ties which bind us together in Christian fellowship. A friend writes from Hawaii, reporting on what may have been Dr. Seabury's last major address: 'Yes, Ruth Isabel Seabury was here over the week-end and simply inspired our congregation with a great sermon. She looks well and appears to be as vigorous as ever. She does a magnificent job for the American Board and for the Christian cause in general.'

"Dr. Seabury's talents were also richly shared with the Student Volunteer Movement, the Danforth Foundation, the American Youth Foundation, the Committee for Friendly Relations among Foreign Students, the Joint Commission on Missionary Education and other agencies of the National Council of Churches, to name only some of her interests.

"Down through the years the other facts of her rich personality will keep recurring to mind: her love of song, her thoughtfulness of anniversaries, her willingness to speak out for some forgotten man or cause, her courage in facing new situations, her intellectual curiosity and, again and again, the variety and depth of her friendships and her unstinted giving of herself to every one of us."

Dr. Seabury held honorary degrees from three colleges: an Litt. D. from Elon College and L.H.D.'s from Cedar Crest and Hood colleges. She was the author of several books directed toward a better understanding of the world mission of Christianity, among them **Flight To Destiny** and **Daughter of Africa**.

Dr. Seabury is survived by three brothers: Gordon H., Robert B., and Alden H. Seabury.

To say that Ruth Isabel Seabury was greatly loved is but to lift love's connotation to its ultimate significance on our mortal plane and to identify it with the **agape** of God. She faced life with Christian courage, encouraging us all to do the same. And now that she has found her way intrepidly to the other side, we ourselves may look forward to God's summons with a fortitude more steadfast than before.

—from ADVANCE, September 7 issue

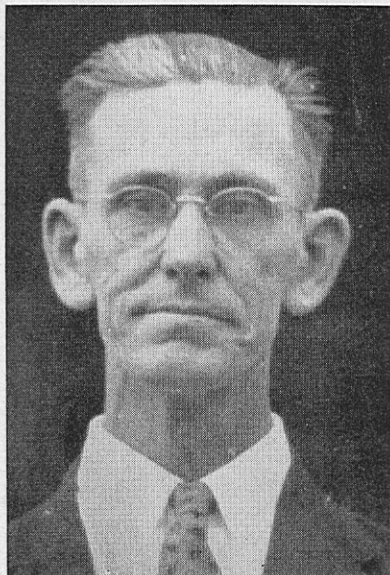
Dr. Seabury delivered the keynote address at the 1954 annual meeting of the Southeast Convention, in the Lanett Church on May 15. She also participated in the fellowship meetings.

Those who were present and privileged to hear her speak and to meet her personally later, will share the sense of great loss to the denomination. All will remember her definition of a living church—one that will last: "(1) It must be a layman's church, able to go without a pastor; (2) its leadership must look forward into the future and be able to adapt itself to changing conditions; (3) it must be rooted in the soil, local; (4) it must have a tremendous sense of society, and be in touch with the problems of the world; (5) its people must be willing to work and give of themselves; it must be the beginning of life for all-- you live it, you don't explain it."



Miss Seabury also gave a message from a group of African Christians to the people of America: "Tell the people about us and ask them to pray for us, and tell them we are going to be praying for them too, because we need each other." She said this was the whole meaning of Our Christian World Mission, "for when you join the church of Christ you join a world thing."

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REV. VELL M. BAYNE

The Reverend Vell Minor Bayne of Trinity, Ala., died July 30 at the Baugh-Wiley Clinic in Decatur, Ala., after suffering a heart attack a few hours earlier. He was 48 years of age.

Funeral services were at the home and at Cad-do Friendship Congregational Christian Church near Trinity, where Mr. Bayne has been a member for many years. The Reverends Robert Shelton and Guy L. Colbert conducted the services. Brothers-in-law of the deceased served as pallbearers. Interment was in the cemetery of Dancy's Chapel Church of Christ.

Mr. Bayne is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mary Bayne, two daughters, Mrs. Leon Terry, Miss Miriam Bayne; one son, Glendon Bayne; two sisters, Mrs. Fanny Tarpley and Mrs. Molly Carter; one brother, Wirt Bayne; and a grandson, Daniel Lee Terry.

The Rev. Bayne was licensed as a Congregational Christian minister at Mountain Grove Church on the 29th of October, 1936; he was ordained at Mt. Lebanon Church on Chandler Mountain on August 31, 1936 by Dr. Fred Ensminger and the late Rev. Luther M. Thrasher. He received his ministerial training at David Lipscomb College and through the Convention Course for Ministers and many special courses.

Mr. Bayne was serving as pastor of the Haleyville Union Grove and Hackleburg Fairview churches.

Graveside rites were conducted Sunday afternoon, August 28 in Westview Cemetery of Moultrie, Ga., for the infant daughter of the Rev. and Mrs.

## CCSC REPORTS

The Rev. Elmer Galt, joint representative of Congregational Christian Service Committee and Church World Service in Hong Kong, describes the dedication of the Faith-Hope Nursery and the latest group of resettlement cottages of the Faith-Hope Village for refugees from behind the Bamboo Curtain. The nursery is a joint CWS-YMCA project and in the village there are already 192 units-- "small, substantial houses, with good ventilation"-- which, after payments over 39 months, will be in full possession of the tenants. There are seven trained teachers on the nursery staff.

The Faith-Hope Nursery has a maximum enrollment of 100, and they are lucky compared with many others who are living in this resettlement area. In the evenings, after the children have gone home, this building becomes a community center for those living in the Church World Service cottages in this valley, and is used for a variety of purposes such as religious services, discussions, film shows, etc.

The Rev. and Mrs. Wm. W. Mendenhall, new appointees to Salonika, Greece, report: With labor furnished by men of the village and with half the cost assumed by the nomarchy (the local government) CCSC and the Alumni Committee of Anatolia College furnished some pipe and concrete and technical assistance for the most needed facility in the mountain village of Lefkohori-- a water supply which will insure plenty of good water in dry weather for both people and animals and an overflow in normal weather for irrigating gardens. The last and largest reservoir was finished about October 10th. Nothing done by CCSC, aside from the Technical School, will be so long or so gratefully remembered as this provision for "the water of life".

You must realize that the Technical School isn't anything like M.I.T., but a school where boys from six or seven villages can learn carpentry or blacksmithing in a two-month course. It seemed to be taken for granted that CCSC would pay the cost (a modest sum), but we assumed only the salary of Chrysostis Kehaias and a small grant-in-aid. The Alumni Committee therefore has had to search for other financial resources in UNESCO coupons and money-making schemes.

Enough has been found for the immediate future, and the committee seems the better for it. It is hard to over-dramatize the good this school is doing in this area.

Scott Morris, Jr., of Braselton and Moultrie. The baby was born and died on Saturday, August 27.

The Rev. Morris has served for the past two years as pastor of the North Georgia Parish.

The burial rites were read by the Rev. Henry Abbott of Tifton, Ga., pastor of the Vanceville Church.

Besides the parents, the baby was survived by her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Scott Morris, Sr., of Moultrie; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ellison Pound of Woodland; and one great-grandmother, Mrs. Emmie Cook of Woodland.



## PARSONAGE SURVEY COMMITTEE

In 1952 the New Hampshire Conference created a special committee to survey parsonages. This committee sent out questionnaires, and from them have written a report which would be helpful to local churches in this area in analyzing their own parsonage situation and comparing it with the problems in other areas.

The committee found that the locations of parsonages seem fairly adequate, although some which were as far as two miles from the church left something to be desired from the standpoint of convenience.

It was felt that there could be improvement in the attitude of church officials on their responsibilities for the parsonage. For instance, that the parsonage is not merely something "free", but a definite part of a minister's salary in terms of rent, with the church as landlord. (Annuity is based on salary, plus 15% of salary for parsonage rent.)

There ought to be in each church a Parsonage Committee which would make **regular** periodic inspections of the property with an eye to repairs and improvements. This committee preferably to be composed of men and women should report its findings to the Board of Trustees.

It seems important for churches to keep such repairs and improvements up to date, accomplishing something definite each year, and not facing unduly large parsonage expense in the year of a ministerial change. Churches would do well to be persuaded to include in their annual budget a definite item for repairs and improvements, funding any unexpended balance in a "repair fund". For instance, as little as \$150 per year, once property was in reasonable shape, would mean \$1,500 or more every ten years. It was brought out strongly that such Parsonage Committees could well think in terms of cheerfulness and convenience for the minister's wife in her household duties, as well as in terms of things worn out or broken.

Electricity was deemed most important. More outlets should be provided, enough circuits to prevent over-loading. In rural areas, particularly, there should be a thorough inspection of the wiring system since in many cases this was done some years ago by volunteer and sometimes amateur help, and in some cases worn-out parts exist or cable used that today is unapproved, making in these cases for fire hazards.

In rural parsonages particularly, water is a problem. It needs to be from a pure supply, of course, but also from an adequate supply, not one which goes dry in summer. Water should be piped into the house. There should be a bathroom.

There should be adequate plumbing. Again, particularly in rural areas, attention needs to be directed to problems of sanitation. Are the septic tanks adequate? Are the dry wells placed properly with reference to the source of drinking water? Does the parsonage have running **hot water**?

Heating should be adequate. Circulating hot air is best for newer houses and forced hot air for old houses. It is to be noted that heating costs vary greatly from parsonage to parsonage, and when ministers pay their own fuel bills, a church

## GEORGIA FAMILY CONFERENCE

For a while it seemed we would have a "dean-less" conference, but just three days before the conference began, Wm. Frank Gordon, SEC treasurer and president of the Laymen's Fellowship, accepted the job. Misunderstanding with the YMCA about the date the camp was leased resulted in a number of leaders and deans being unable to attend because of other commitments. In spite of these handicaps we had a pretty good camp, and the dean did a creditable job for such a short notice. The evaluation session on the last afternoon offers many valuable suggestions for making the conference a really wonderful one next summer. The food was good and plentiful.

The Rev. James Hess, missionary speaker, gave very helpful messages about India. It would not seem like a Georgia Conference without Dr. Van Cleave, and he was right there conducting the chapel services. The Rev. Carl Dollar had humorous but spiritually helpful Vespers, using some of the young people to help. The camp newspaper was run by Rev. Carpenter; Mrs. Gladys Wilson taught classes. The Rev. George Chambers was a wonderful addition to staff this year, teaching a class in the morning and a very popular beginners' swimming class in the afternoon. The Rev. Henry Weaver conducted the choir. Mrs. Wildes took care of the sick, and two summer workers, Misses Jerry Paul and Mary Stewart, conducted the VBS and acted as counselors to the girls.

We have requested the grounds for August 19-25, 1956.  
—Annie R. Campbell

ought to face these costs realistically in determining the minister's salary.

Kitchens generally need more cabinets or storage space, cheerfulness and convenience. Is the stove adequate?

Adequate garage space is a must, and convenient enough to the parsonage in bad weather.

In rural areas, a garden space seems desirable.

Is the parsonage insured adequately? Not only against fire, but hurricanes! And wood shingles, of course, are a fire hazard.

Give the minister's wife a chance to choose her own kitchen and bathroom colors, wallpaper, etc., when possible.

Helpful advice may be secured from the Home Demonstration Agent of County Agricultural Agent. They have various pamphlets, called Service Bulletins, on such matters as heating, insulation, planning.

Attention is also called to the possibility of advice from our Congregational Christian Building Society, also Bureau of Architecture of the National Council of Churches.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S PAGE

(From page 5)

what you have read in these paragraphs, and vote with the rest of the congregation to increase the giving of your church to Our Christian World Mission — and many people in many lands will say "thank you, and God bless you".

—Erston M. Butterfield



# REDEEMING OUR PLEDGE

by David H. Sandstrom

Memory holds a high religious moment—may be several—for many of us of the Christian heritage. This summit experience may have been at baptism, when we were taking our first communion, or a Sunday evening Pilgrim Fellowship meeting long ago, or a recent summer youth conference when first we “saw the Lord.”

Perhaps the moment came when we joined the church. With our confession of faith we took its obligation henceforth to be members of the fellowship whose first loyalty is to God as revealed in the person of Christ. Or that sacred hour may have derived from a happening of the home—the birth of a child, or a sudden crisis when we cried, “To whom shall we go?”

Who can say for another? For you there may have been an almost imperceptible gathering of conviction and intention. Then one day you grew aware of your allegiance to the Master-- no sudden ecstasy, just a quiet unveiling.

We have come to call ourselves Christian and to live under two promises, God's and our own. We have given ourselves to Him whose self-giving love is the mainspring of the universe. We have made our pledge.

But we are not like the soldier whose pledge of allegiance to flag and country may well mean fulfillment in sudden death by the enemy. Martyrdom is not our cup-- not yet. We are called upon to spell out our loyalty in days upon days. Our responsible response to God is in every happening of the day and in the image of His generosity.

This means a careful preoccupation with time. Every Christian, not just the minister, is in “full-time Christian service.” We can redeem all time for God. Our daily work may be a divine calling; our leisure time may sing His praise.

To redeem our pledge we must set aside some time for God, through prayer and service to the mission of the church. We write into our discipline given hours inviolably held for God: Sunday morning for worship, a period spent in his presence each morning, at least one evening, or equivalent thereof, each week for specific work in church or community as our special project in Kingdom advance.

We can give ourselves to God through our abilities and work and thus redeem our pledge. We are under obligation to make His love and righteousness real to men by our effort to channel the mind and spirit of Jesus through our daily work. What a Christian frontier for each one of us to explore! In faith we accept the principle that the Christian attitude and conduct comprise a position of strength rather than of weakness in dealing with unjust and loveless forces in our workaday world.

A good churchman works also for and through his church, even as he works outside his church, to redeem his pledge of faith and love. He offers the skill of his hands, his professional talents, the gifts of his spirit and not least the superb

grace of his faithfulness. He seeks with others a division of labor in the enterprises of the church, so that laymen may assume such burdens as otherwise overtake the minister and distract him from his irreplaceable task. A good churchman says “no” to other posts of responsibility that he may engage all his power for the time being in the one thing he feels called to do. Working for God in his church does not substitute for living with God but follows from it.

We must also redeem our pledge by the gift of our hands. When we have been called to be Christ's men and women we say, as did Paul, “I feel myself under a universal obligation; I owe something to all men, from cultured Greek to ignorant savage.” This is an obligation not only to preach the Gospel but to have the Gospel preached. When God has watched over us and “his friendship has been upon our tents” we are under obligation to execute mercy and righteousness. This we do through our direct personal service but also through the enabling means of our gifts.

Many good causes need strengthening through our assistance and support. Our benevolence should never be regimented so that we cannot respond to immediate situations of need wherever they be. Neither should our principle of giving ever prevent spontaneity in the expression of our gratitude to God and of practical sympathy with our fellowmen. We remember the “splendid recklessness” of Jesus.

There is, however, a greater freedom and service in a freely accepted discipline wherein we set aside a constant and due portion of our income to Christ and His Church, from which we meet the pressing needs of the world. Even though at times we give from an over-flowing cup, better yet for us to give by conviction and in constancy. We both test and fulfill our Christian commitment not least by the consecration even unto sacrifice of our material goods.

Thus to redeem our pledge of faith and love through the specific, deliberate stewardship of time, ability and money may recapture and fulfill the high moments of an earlier time, loved long since but, perchance, lost a while.

Dr. David H. Sandstrom is associate minister of the Missions Council and executive director of the National Committee on Our Christian World Mission. As part of his responsibility, he prepares the materials for the Every Member Canvass. This meditation has been published by the Missions Council in pamphlet form and may be ordered from the Missions Council.

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## Relationship of Man to Society

(From page 2)

The problems of the Christian Church is to find ways it can spread its Christian concern with and through the Christians of all lands. . . . how we can make that significant contribution which is the key to man and society and the problems of the world. The Christian Church stands in a significant place before the world because of its relation to the individual. . . . if we seek in all that we do the power and wisdom of God, we can make a tremendous impact on society.



***An All-Important Day in Your Church***

# **"Our Day of Decision"**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1955**

(Ask your pastor for the exact time of your meeting.)

Read the Superintendent's Page in this issue.

**Don't miss this big day in your church . . . hear the dramatic story of**

**"Our Christian World Mission"**

**To know is to care and to care is to share!**

## **Schedule for Fall Conference and Association Meetings**

<b>Conference or Association</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Date</b>
North Alabama Asso. ....	Mt. Grove Church, Steppville.....	October 1-2
Central Alabama Asso. ....	Seman Community Church, Seman.....	October 3-4
George - South Carolina .....	Chipley Oak Grove .....	October 5-6
Kentucky - Tennessee .....	Brookmeade Church, Nashville.....	October 8-9
East Alabama Asso. ....	Lowell Church, Roanoke .....	October 12-13
South Ala. - N.W. Fla. Asso. ....	Blackwood Church, Headland .....	October 14-15